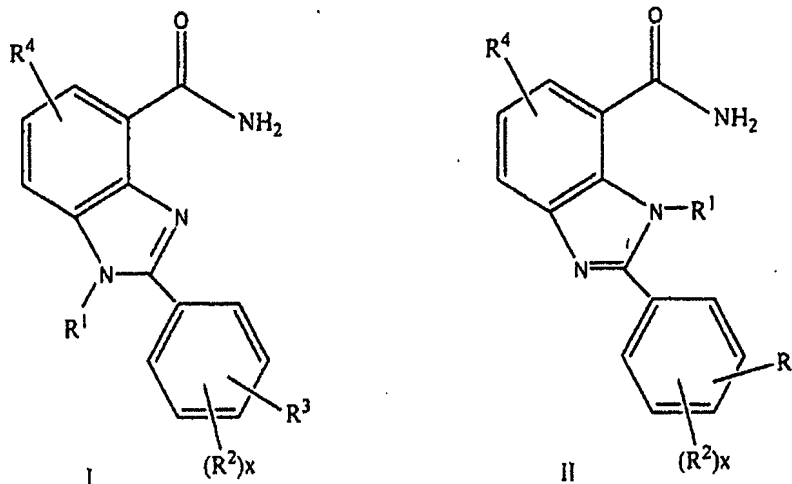


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula I or II



in which

$R^1$  is hydrogen, or branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom

of the alkyl radical to carry  $OR^{11}$  or a group  $R^5$ , where  $R^{11}$  is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, and

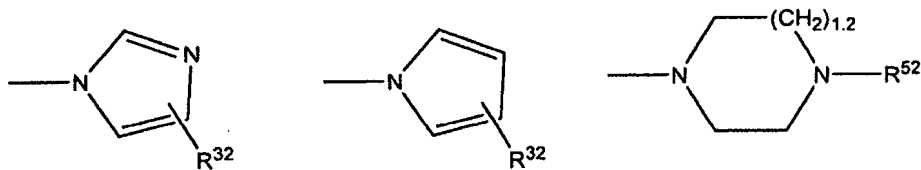
$R^2$  is hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine,  $CF_3$ ,  $CF_3$ , nitro,  $NHCO R^{21}$ ,  $NR^{22}R^{23}$ , OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylphenyl,  $NH_2$ , CN, a straight or branched  $C_4$ - $C_6$   $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $OR^{21}$  or phenyl, it also being possible for the phenyl rings to be substituted by at most two radicals  $R^{24}$ , and

$R^{21}$  and  $R^{22}$  independently of one another are hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, and  $R^{23}$  is OH,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -

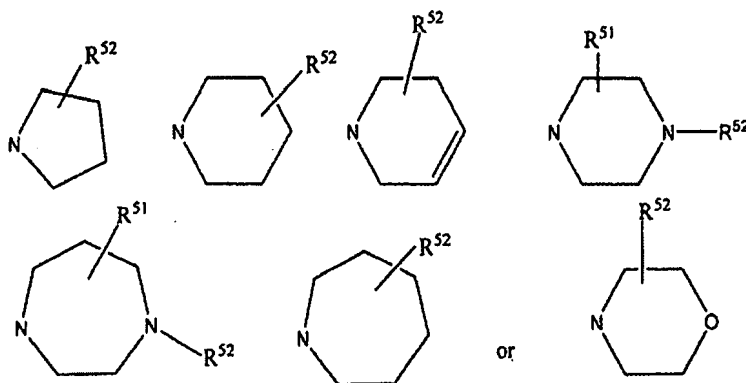
alkyl, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine,  $CF_3$ , nitro or  $NH_2$ , and

x may be 0, 1 or 2 and

$R^3$  is  $-O-(CH_2)_o(CHR^{31})_m-(CH_2)-G$ , where  $R^{31}$  is hydrogen, OH,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl, or O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, m and o are, independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2 and n is 1, 2, 3 or 4,



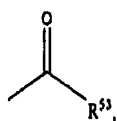
- D-(F<sup>1</sup>)<sub>p</sub>-(E)<sub>q</sub>-(F<sup>2</sup>)<sub>r</sub>, -G, where p, q and r may not simultaneously be 0, or is -E-(D)<sub>u</sub>-(F<sup>2</sup>)<sub>8</sub>-(G)<sub>v</sub>, it also being possible for the radical E to be substituted by one or two radicals A, and if v = 0, E is imidazole, pyrrole, pyridine, pyrimidine, piperazine, pyrazine, pyrrolidine or piperidine, or R<sup>3</sup> is B and
- R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, OH, nitro, CF<sub>3</sub>, CN, NR<sup>41</sup>R<sup>42</sup>, NH-CO-R<sup>43</sup>, or O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, where R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> independently of one another are hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl
- and R<sup>43</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylphenyl or phenyl, and
- D is S or  $\theta$  Q
- E is phenyl, imidazole, pyrrole, thiophene, pyridine, pyrimidine, piperazine, pyrazine, furan, thiazole, isoxazole, pyrrolidine, piperidine, or trihydroazepine and
- F<sup>1</sup> is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it, also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl group and
- F<sup>2</sup> is a chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, it also being possible for one carbon atom of the chain to carry an OH or O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl group and
- p may be 0 or 1
- q may be 0 or 1, and
- r may be 0 or 1 and
- s may be 0 or 1
- u may be 0 or 1
- v may be 0 or 1
- G may be NR<sup>51</sup>R<sup>52</sup> or



where

$R^{51}$  is hydrogen or branched, and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, or  $(CH_2)_n$ -K and

$R^{52}$  is hydrogen, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, phenyl,  $COCH_3$ ,  $COCF_3$ ,



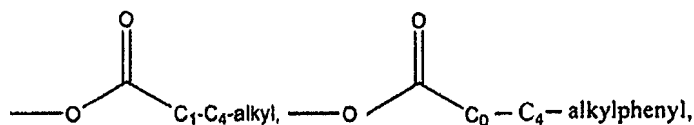
$-SO_2R^{53}$ ,  $-(C=N)-R^{53}$ ,  $-(C=N)-NHR^{53}$ , or  $-CO-NHR^{53}$

in which

$R^{53}$  may be branched or unbranched  $O$ - $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, phenyl, or branched or unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylphenyl, where in the case of  $R^{52}$  and  $R^{53}$ , independently of one another, one hydrogen of the  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH,  $O$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, it also being possible for the carbocycles of the radicals  $R^{52}$  and  $R^{53}$  independently of one another to carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, branched or unbranched  $O$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,

OH, F, Cl, Br, I,  $CF_3$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $NH_2$ , CN, COOH,  $COOC_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkylamino,  $CCl_3$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -dialkylamino,  $SO_2$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $SO_2$ phenyl,  $CONH_2$ ,  $CONH$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $CONH$ phenyl,  $CONH$ -

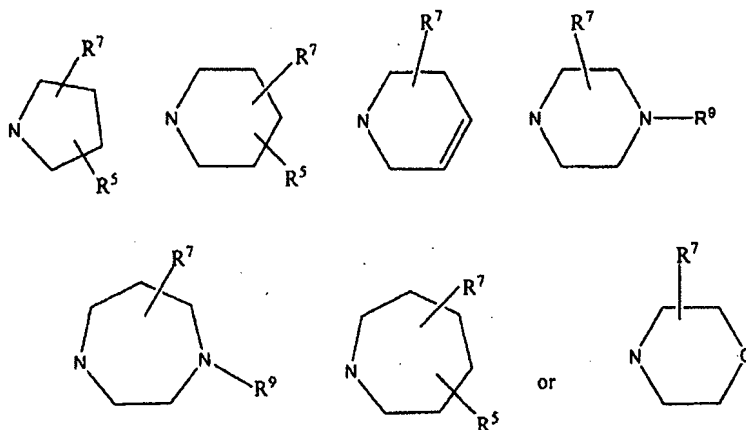
$C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylphenyl,  $NHSO_2$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $NHSO_2$ phenyl,  $S$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,



CHO, CH<sub>2</sub>-O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylphenyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>OH, -SO-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, -SO-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylphenyl, -SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl

or two radicals form a bridge -O-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1,2</sub>-O-,

B may be



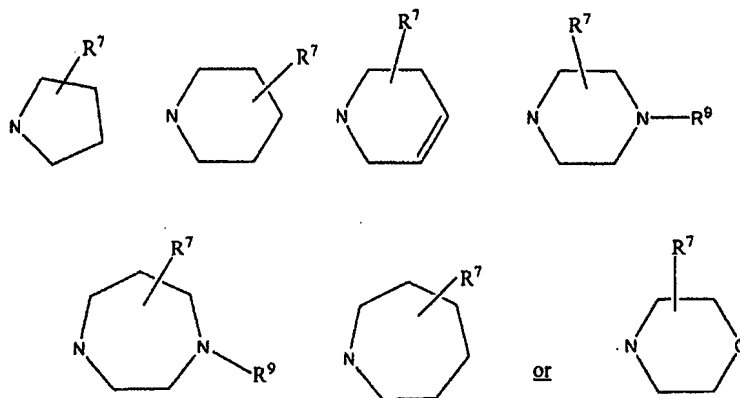
and

A may be hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine, CF<sub>3</sub>, nitro, OH, O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylphenyl, NH<sub>2</sub>, branched and unbranched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, CN, or NH-CO-R<sup>33</sup>, where R<sup>33</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl or phenyl and

t is 0, 1, 2, ~~3 or~~ 3 or 4 and

K is phenyl, NR<sup>k1</sup>R<sup>k2</sup> where R<sup>k1</sup> and R<sup>k2</sup> are as defined for R<sup>41</sup> and R<sup>42</sup> respectively, NH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylphenyl, pyrrolidine, piperidine, 1, 2, 5, 6-tetrahydropyridine, morpholine, trihydroazepine, piperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, or homopiperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and C<sub>4</sub>-alkylphenyl, pyrrolidine, piperidine, 1,2, 5, 6-tetrahydropyridine, morpholine, trihydroazepine, piperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, or homopiperazine, which may also be substituted by an alkyl radical C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and

R<sup>5</sup> may be hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, or NR<sup>7</sup>R<sup>9</sup> and



and

$R^7$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylphenyl, or phenyl, it also being possible for the rings to be substituted by up to two radicals  $R^{71}$ , and

$R^{71}$  is OH,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine,  $CF_3$ , nitro, or  $NH_2$ , and

$R^8$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, phenyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylphenyl, it also being possible for the ring to be substituted by up to two radicals  $R^{81}$ , and

$R^{81}$  is OH,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, iodine, fluorine,  $CF_3$ , nitro, or  $NH_2$  and

$R^9$  is hydrogen,  $COCH_3$ ,  $CO-O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl,  $COCF_3$ , branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, it being possible for one or two hydrogens of the  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl radical to be substituted in each case by one of the following radicals: OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and phenyl, and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: iodine, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, nitro, amino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$   $C_1$ - $C_4$ -dialkylamino, OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, CN,  $CF_3$ , or  $SO_2$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,

or a tautomeric form, a possible enantiomeric or diastereomeric form, a prodrug or pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula I or II as claimed in claim 1 in which

$R^1$  is hydrogen, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$   $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, it also being possible for

one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry  $OR^{11}$  or a group  $R^5$ , where

$R^{11}$  is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, and

$R^2$  is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, nitro,  $CF_3$ ,  $CN$ ,  $NR^{22}R^{23}$ ,  $NH-CO-R^{21}$ ,  $OR^{21}$ , where

$R^{21}$  is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, and

$R^3$  is  $-O-(CH_2)_o-(CHR^{31})_m-(CH_2)_n-G$ , where

$R^{31}$  is hydrogen, OH or  $O-C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,

$m, o$  are, independently of one another, 0, 1 or 2, and

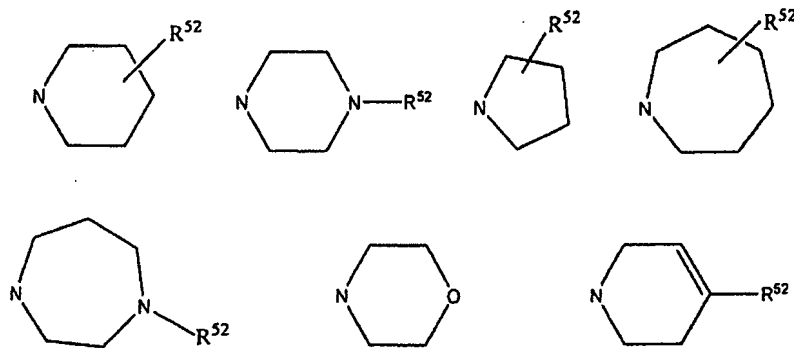
$n$  is 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

$R^4$  is hydrogen, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano,  $NR^{41}R^{42}$ ,  $NH-CO-R^{43}$ ,  $OR^{41}$  where

$R^{41}$  and  $R^{42}$  are, independently of one another, hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, and

$R^{43}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl or phenyl, and

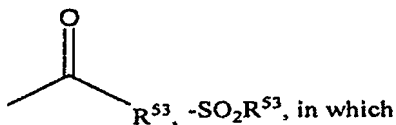
$G$  is  $NR^{51}R^{52}$  or one of the following radicals



where

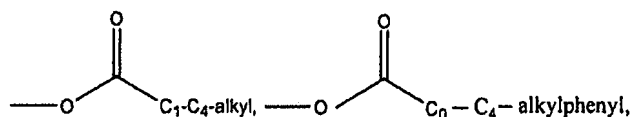
$R^{51}$  is hydrogen or branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, and

$R^{52}$  is hydrogen, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl phenyl,



$R^{53}$  is branched or unbranched  $O-C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, phenyl, branched or unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylphenyl, where one hydrogen in the  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl radical in  $R^{52}$  and  $R^{53}$  are,

independently of one another, optionally substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, naphthyl and phenyl, where the carbocycles of the R<sup>52</sup> and R<sup>53</sup> radicals may also, independently of one another, carry one or two of the following radicals: branched or unbranched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, branched or unbranched O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, OH, F, ~~C<sub>1</sub>-Br, I, CF<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, Cl, Br, I, CF<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>~~, NH<sub>2</sub>, CN, COOH, COOC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, CCl<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylamino, SO<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, SO<sub>2</sub> phenyl, CONH<sub>2</sub>, CONH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, CONHphenyl, CONH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-phenyl, NHSO<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, NHSO<sub>2</sub>phenyl, S-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,



CHO, CH<sub>2</sub> -O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-phenyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>OH, -SO-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, -SO-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-phenyl, SO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>, -SO<sub>2</sub>NH-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl or two radicals form a bridge -O-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1,2</sub>-O -,

or a tautomeric form, a possible enantiomeric or. diastereomeric form, a prodrug or pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula I or II as claimed in claim 1 in which

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, branched and unbranched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, it also being possible for one C atom of the alkyl radical to carry OR<sup>11</sup> or a group R<sup>5</sup>, where

R<sup>11</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and

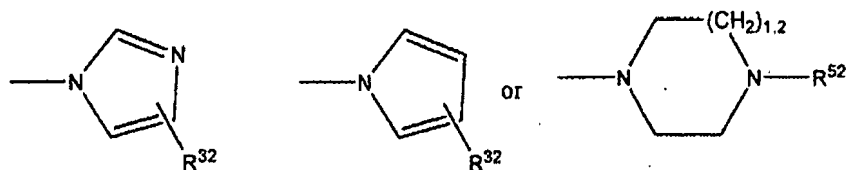
R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, chlorine, fluorine, bromine, iodine, branched and unbranched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, nitro, CF<sub>3</sub>, CN, NR<sup>22</sup>R<sup>23</sup>, NH-CO-R<sup>21</sup>, OR<sup>21</sup>, where

R<sup>21</sup> and R<sup>22</sup> ~~independently of one another are~~ is hydrogen or

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl and

R<sup>23</sup> ~~is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl or phenyl~~

R<sup>3</sup> is



and

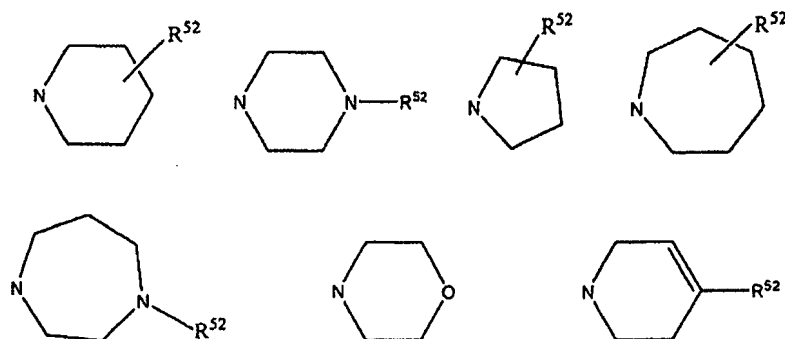
$R^{32}$  is hydrogen and  $-(CH_2)_o-(CHR^{31})_m-(CH_2)_n-G$  where  $R^{31}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, OH and O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, m, o independently of one another are  $\neq 0$ , 1 or 2 and n is 1, 2, 3 or 4, and

$R^4$  is hydrogen, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, chlorine, bromine, fluorine, nitro, cyano,  $NR^{41}R^{42}$ ,  $NH-CO-R^{43}$ ,  $OR^{41}$ , where

$R^{41}$  and  $R^{42}$  independently of one another are hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and

$R^{43}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl or phenyl, and,

G is  $NR^{51}R^{52}$  or one of the radicals below



where

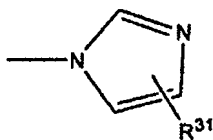
$R^{51}$  is hydrogen and branched and unbranched and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl and

$R^{52}$  is hydrogen,  $COCH_3$ ,  $CO-O-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl,  $COCF_3$ , branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, it being possible for one hydrogen of the  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl radical to be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and phenyl and for the phenyl ring also to carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, nitro, amino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -dialkylamino, OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, CN,  $SO_2-C_1-C_4$ -alkyl,

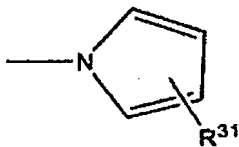
or a tautomeric form, a possible enantiomeric or diastereomeric form, a prodrug or

pharmacologically tolerated salt thereof.

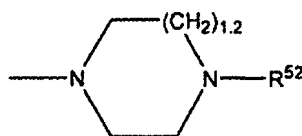
4. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 where  $R^2$  is in position 3 and  $R^3$  is in position 4 or  $R^2$  is in position 4 and  $R^3$  is in position 3 relative to the benzimidazole ring.
5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where  $R^1$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogen.
6. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where  $R^2$  is hydrogen, branched or unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, nitro, CN,  $NH_2$ , or O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl.
7. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where
  - (i) for  $R^3$  being



- $R^{31}$  is hydrogen or  $-(CH_2)_w-G$ , where
- $w$  is 1 or 2 and
- (ii) for  $R^3$  being



- $R^{31}$  is hydrogen or  $-(CH_2)_p-G$ , where
- $p$  is 1 or 2
- and and (iii) for  $R^3$  being
- being



where  $R_{52}$  is hydrogen, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, where one hydrogen of the  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl radical may be substituted by one of the following radicals: OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and phenyl, and where the phenyl ring may also carry one or two of the following radicals: chlorine, bromine, fluorine, branched and unbranched  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, nitro, amino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -dialkylamino, OH, O- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, CN,  $SO_2$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl.

8. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where  $R^3$  is  $-D(F^1)_p(E)_q-(F^2)_r-G$  where D is O,  $F^1$  is a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  carbon chain, p is 1, q is 0 and r is 0.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, where  $R^5$  is  $R^5$  is a 6-membered ring and  $R^{52}$  is an optionally substituted phenyl ring.

10 (Previously Presented) A drug comprising besides conventional vehicles and ancillary substances a compound as claimed in claim 1.

11. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a disorder in which pathologically elevated PARP activities occur, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 to a mammal suffering from said disorder.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is a neurodegenerative disease or involves neuronal damage.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the neurodegenerative disease or neuronal damage is induced by ischemia, trauma or massive bleeding.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is stroke ~~or~~ and craniocerebral trauma.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is Alzheimer's disease and Huntington's disease.
16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is damage due to ischemia.
17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is epilepsy.
18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is damage to the kidneys after renal ischemia, damage caused by drug therapy or damage resulting after kidney transplants.
19. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is damage to the heart after cardiac ischemia.
20. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is a microinfarct.
21. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is under vascularization of critically narrowed coronary arteries.
22. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is an acute myocardial infarct and damage during and after medical or mechanical lysis thereof.
23. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is a tumor or metastasis I thereof.
24. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is sepsis of multi-organ failure.
25. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is an immunological disease.
26. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the disorder is diabetes mellitus.

Claims 27-38 (Canceled)